

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TANANA 00014 040714Z

16

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 IGA-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 IO-10 OMB-01 SAM-01 NSCE-00 AGR-05

FEA-01 /101 W

----- 059150

R 031325Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6810

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TANANARIVE 0014

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGSC PFOR, USR, CAN, PRC, MA

SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR CONCLUDES AID AGREEMENTS WITH USSR,
CANADA, AND FRG

BEGIN SUMMARY: ON 2 JAN MALAGASY PRESS ANNOUNCED SIGNING
OF GOMC-SOVIET TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC ACCORD THAT TOOK
PLACE DEC 31. CANADIAN AID AGREEMENT SIGNED SAME DATE.
COMPLETION OF PRC MISSION TO STUDY POSSIBLE ROAD PROJECTS
ALSO RECEIVED FRONT PAGE COVERAGE. ALL PRECEDING UNDER
HEADLINE: "NEW SUCCESS BY VIRTUE OF OMNIDIRECTIONAL FOREIGN
POLICY." ON 3 JAN PRESS ELABORATED SOVIET PLANS AND
ANNOUNCED FRG GIFT OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZER. ALTHOUGH THIS
FLURRY OF ACTIVITY LARGELY COINCIDENTAL, ORCHESTRATION
BY FONMIN RATSIRAKA IS SEEN AS ATTEMPT TO VINDICATE
HIMSELF AND GOMC FOREIGN POLICY AT TIME WHEN CHANGES IN
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TANANA 00014 040714Z

GOVT MAY BE BREWING. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER UMBRELLA OF SOVIET-MALAGASY ECONOMIC-TECHNICAL ACCORD SIGNED DEC 31, SOVIET AMB ANNOUNCED JAN 2 THAT HIS GOVT PROPOSES TO PROVIDE FOLLOWING:

(A) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CEMENT FACTORY WITH ANNUAL CAPACITY OF 200-250 THOUSAND TONS.

(B) TO PROVIDE UNIVERSITY OF MADAGASCAR WITH EQUIPMENT AND SOVIET PROFESSORS IN FIELD OF GEOLOGY.

(C) TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL AND LABORATORY EQUIPMENT TO MALAGASY MARINE NAVIGATION SCHOOL TOGETHER WITH 15 SOVIET INSTRUCTORS.

(D) TO AID WITH TRAINING AT CIVIL AVIATION SCHOOL.

2. CANADIAN AGREEMENT PROVIDED FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY OF ROGEZ HYDROELECTRIC PLANT AND AID IN ESTABLISHING CIVIL AVIATION SCHOOL (SEE TANANARIVE A-181 OF 12/12/74, NOTAL).

3. PRESS REPORTED THAT PRC MISSION TO STUDY POSSIBLE ROAD PROJECTS WAS BRIEFED BY MINTERREDEV ON GOMR PLANNED ROAD PROJECTS IN SOUTH AND EAST OF ISLAND. PRC AMB SAID PRC WOULD SEND ALL MATERIALS AND FINANCE ALL WORK FOR PROJECTS THAT THEY ACCEPTED. MISSION OF FOUR WAS HEADED BY MR. LIN OF PRC MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CLOSELY FOLLOWED OTHER CHINESE VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH SMALL INDUSTRIAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH PROJECTS.

4. FRG SIGNED CONVENTION WITH GOMR FOR FRG GIFT OF 28,400 TONS OF CHEMICAL FERTILIZER (WORTH ABOUT U.S. \$45,000) ON 2 JAN ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS. FERTILIZER IS TO BE USED IN RICE PRODUCTION PROJECTS.

5. EMBASSY COMMENTS:

(A) PROPOSED SOVIET PROJECTS STRIKE US AS PRODUCT OF GOMR SHOTGUN AID REQUESTS WHICH OFTEN RESULT IN DUPLICATION OF EFFORT, AT LEAST AT OUTSET. FRG HAS ALREADY AGREED TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TANANA 00014 040714Z

DO FEASIBILITY STUDY ON CEMENT PLANT AND HAS AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO FINANCE FOREIGN EXCHANGE COMPONENT OF PROJECT ONCE FEASIBILITY STUDY IS COMPLETED. IN ADDITION, CANADIANS WILL ALSO BE AIDING CIVIL AVIATION SCHOOL.

(B) FRONT PAGE PRESS COVERAGE OF ALL AGREEMENTS PLUS PRC MISSION VISIT CAME AT SAME TIME, PROBABLY COINCIDENTIALLY, BUT PRESENTATION IN PRESS WAS DESIGNED CLEARLY TO PLACE

FONMIN RATSIRAKA IN BEST POSSIBLE LIGHT IN TERMS OF
SUCCESS OF HIS DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS. PRESS NOTED GLOWINGLY
THAT FONMIN SWITCHED FROM FRENCH AND RUSSIAN WITH SOVIET AMB TO
ENGLISH WITH CANADIAN. RATSIRAKA CRITICIZED THOSE WHO
CLAIMED THAT SOCIALIST COUNTRIES DIDN'T OFFER ANYTHING
TO MADAGASCAR, ESPECIALLY SOVIET UNION.

(C) RUMORS PERSIST IN TANANARIVE THAT GOMR CABINET SHAKE-UP
IS BEING PLANNED. MOST VULNERABLE MINISTER IS RAMAROSON,
MIN ECON AND FIN, BUT RATSIRAKA MAY ALSO FEEL THREATENED.
IN MALAGASY ECONOMIC CIRCLES, RATSIRAKA'S IGNORANCE ON
THAT SUBJECT DOES NOT EARN HIM RESPECT. CANADIAN AMB
TOLD US THAT RATSIRAKA'S KNOWLEDGE OF ECONOMICS CLEARLY
LACKING. UNLIKE RAMAROSON, HOWEVER, WHO PRESIDES OVER A
STAGNANT ECONOMY, RATSIRAKA NOW SEEMINGLY HAS SOMETHING TO
SHOW FOR HIS EFFORTS. IN FACT, RELATIVELY AMBITIOUS
CANADIAN AID PROGRAM TO MADAGASCAR WAS UNDERTAKEN ON
INITIATIVE OF THE CANADIANS THEMSELVES, WITH RATSIRAKA
PLAYING LITTLE OR NO CREATIVE ROLE.
ELFERS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TANANA00014
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750004-0513
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750178/aaaacqqe.tel
Line Count: 135
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MADAGASCAR CONCLUDES AID AGREEMENTS WITH USSR, CANADA, AND FRG
TAGS: PFOR, MA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006